PROGRAM CHAIR ANNUAL REPORT

NACBS/ SCBS JOINT MEETING, BALTIMORE, NOVEMBER 8-10, 2002

2002 Program Committee:
Angela Woollacott (Chair) (Case Western Reserve University), Empire, *term ends 2002*
Ian Christopher Fletcher (Georgia State University), Post-1832, *term ends 2002*
Katherine French (SUNY, New Paltz), Pre-1500, *term ends 2004*
Ginger S. Frost (Samford University), SCBS Representative, Co-reader Post-1832
James Rosenheim (Texas A&M University), 1660-1832, *term ends 2002*
Joseph Ward (University of Mississippi), 1500-1660, *term ends 2004*

Deadline for receipt of proposals was January 25, 2002. We received 44 panel proposals and 59 single paper proposals, from which we accepted and created 42 regular panels. The proposals were processed in February, the committee reviewed them, made its decisions and identified participants for empty slots in March and April. Letters of acceptance were mailed on April 24, 2002, and letters of rejection on April 29. The final program (with participants' amendments) was sent to the SCBS for printing June 5, 2002.

Please see attached a statistical analysis of this year's conference, and some observations on the statistics compared to recent years.

The plenary speakers for the conference, Margaret J.M. Ezell and James Walvin, were invited by the program chair in consultation with the program committee and the NACBS executive. This year's semi-plenary special sessions, organized by the program chair in consultation with the program committee, are "Irish Studies Today: A Roundtable" and "Rethinking Atlantic Worlds," both on Saturday afternoon. The panel on Irish Studies was organized partly in response to recent suggestions to widen the conference's geographical focus within the British Isles, and because of recent innovative work in that field. A third, plenary special session late Saturday on "New Developments of Interest to Scholars of British Studies" results from a confluence of individual proposals for special presentations. We are continuing the recently-invented tradition of a reception for graduate students, designed to welcome them and to allow them to meet each other early in the conference.

As well as planning the annual conference, the program chair worked with the staff of the American Historical Association to organize NACBS co-sponsorship of sessions at the 2003 AHA annual meeting. In contrast to previous years, unfortunately we no longer have support from the British Council to pay the expenses of speakers from Britain, either to the annual NACBS meeting or to a regional meeting. The last speaker thus brought for a regional meeting was Leonore Davidoff for the NECBS meeting in November 2001.

For support for this year's conference, we are very grateful to Adam Matthew Publications, Dalton State College, Fort Valley State University, Georgia State University, the Huntington Library, and the Institute of Historical Research.

I would note that, again this year, there seem to have been more potentially interested exhibitors for the book display than we could accommodate. Scholar's Choice continues to serve us well, but this issue ought to be kept in mind when negotiating space in future hotel contracts.

Diane Willen, Ginger Frost, Fred van Hartesveldt and John Hutcheson of the SCBS have been extremely congenial and efficient colleagues. Diane deserves special thanks for her even-keeled perseverance through changes of the assigned conference staff at the hotel.

Ian Fletcher, Jim Rosenheim and myself are all rotating off the program committee this year, and I am very grateful to both Ian and Jim for their imaginative and responsive work these past three years. Seth Koven, the incoming Program Chair, and I have been in regular contact for several months; indeed, by way of preparation, Seth participated in the committee work for this year as my co-reader on the empire proposals. I am delighted to be handing things over to him.

I wish to thank NACBS for its share of the financial support for my research assistant on the program administration this year, Ms. Juilee Decker. Her assistance was invaluable.

Submitted by,

Angela Woollacott
NACBS Program Chair 2000-2002

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF 2002 CONFERENCE

Comparison 2001

Number of participants: 232 TOTAL

215 papers, chairs, commentators

17 plenary and special session participants

Male	106 + 8 from special = **114**	**49%**	48%
Female	109 + 9 from special = **118**	**51%**	52%

Number of panels/sessions: includes special sessions

42 panels + 2 plenaries + 2 semis + 1 special plenary = **47 TOTAL** — 47 sessions

Number of papers: includes plenaries and special sessions

148 — 146 papers

Status of participants:

grad students	31	31	13.0%	9%
post doc/temp appts	11	11	5.0%	6%
asst profs	58	60	25.8%	24%
assoc profs	42	46	19.8%	21%
profs (incl emeritus)	63	70	30.0%	31%
Independent	2	2	0.9%	3%
Others	8	12	5.0%	6%
	215	**232**	**99.5%**	

Institutional Affiliation by Nation:

U.S.A.	159	170	73.0%	49%
U.K.	40	43	19.0%	23%
CANADA	10	13	6.0%	26%
AUSTRALIA	1	1	0.3%	1%
FRANCE	1	1	0.3%	0
GERMANY	1	1	0.3%	0
NEW ZEALAND	1	1	0.3%	0
RUSSIA	1	1	0.3%	0
SINGAPORE	1	1	0.3%	0
	215	**232**	**99.8%**	

Dept. Affiliation

Historians	146	158	68.0%	72%
English/Literature	33	34	15.0%	17%
Interdisc.	12	16	6.8%	5%
Art history	5	5	2.1%	0.4%
Theatre History	5	5	2.1%	1%
Poli Science	3	3	1.3%	0.4%
Religion/Theology	3	3	1.3%	0.4%
Music	1	1	0.3%	0
Education	1	1	0.3%	0

	Sociology	1	1	0.3%	0.4%
	Others	5	5	2.1%	3%
		215	**232**	**99.6%**	
Papers Received by Period:					
	Pre-1500	4	2%		
	1500-1660	37	19%		48
	1660-1832	47	24%		51
	post 1832	63	32%		90
	empire	37	19%		42
	pedagogy	6	3%		N/A
		194	99%		231
Papers Accepted by Period:					
	Pre-1500	3	2%		
	1500-1660	27	20%		28
	1660-1832	28	21%		28
	post 1832	43	33%		52
	empire	27	20%		26
	pedagogy	5	4%		N/A
		133	100%		134
NACBS Membership status of participants:					
	Of the 232 participants (which includes all special sessions and plenaries)				
	90 were members		39%		42
	142 were non-members		61%		58
	NB: the list from University of Chicago Press was generated on 4/11/02 seven months before the conference and thus many more participants may well have become members by now				

A few comparative observations on the statistical analysis

Total proposals received (194) were down slightly compared to recent years (231 Toronto, 213 Pasadena, 261 Boston, 218 Colorado Springs, 214 Asilomar). Perhaps the slight drop reflects the fact that the time when people had to plan proposals occurred during the first months after September 11.

We have many fewer Canadians on the program this year (6% compared to 26% last year). This is too bad, but not very surprising considering that we were in Toronto last year. Perhaps slightly more surprising is that the UK contingent is down to 19% from 23% last year; it was also 19% the two previous years.

The percentage of participants who are historians is the lowest in recent years: 68% this year compared to 72% in 2000 and 2001, 86% in 1999, and 81% in 1999. Our aim of greater interdisciplinarity seems to be becoming realized. The increases are mostly in interdisciplinary affiliations, theatre and art history. Participants from English/Literature are 15% compared to 17% last year, 23% in 2000, 9% in 1999, and 14% in 1998.

The percentage of participants who are graduate students is up slightly (13% compared to 9% last year and 10% the year before) and full professors/emeriti down slightly (30% down from 31% last year and 34% the year before).

Our more balanced sex ratio (M 49%, F 51%) seems to be holding, comparable to last year's, and more balanced than e.g. 1997 (M 57%, F 43%).